

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 7, 2005. Claims 1, 3 to 8, 10 to 21, 23 to 25 and 27 to 30 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 8, 15, 18, 21, 25, 29 and 30 are independent.

Initially, the Examiner has required that a Form PTO-1449, listing the application cited in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on April 15, 2002, be submitted. Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to MPEP § 609 which states that a Form PTO-1449 is encouraged but not required when submitting an IDS. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the IDS submitted on April 15, 2002 was properly submitted pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, Application respectfully urges the Examiner to study the application listed in the IDS in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of that information to the claimed invention. Applicant also respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge consideration of the application by initialing the IDS and returning a copy of the initialed IDS to Applicant.

Claims 1, 3 to 5, 7, 10 to 21, 23 to 25 and 27 to 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,490,052 (Yanagidaira). Claims 6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yanagidaira in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,456 (Teng). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns a network interface apparatus which is connected to an image processing apparatus and communicates with an external apparatus. The network interface apparatus obtains display data that depends on an apparatus type of the image processing apparatus from the image processing apparatus. In addition, the network interface apparatus holds language information indicative of a language selected

by a user from among a plurality of kinds of languages, and designates the display data based on the held language information to obtain the display data corresponding to the selected language from the image processing apparatus.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a network interface apparatus which is connected to an image processing apparatus and communicates with an external apparatus. The network interface apparatus includes a providing unit adapted to provide display data necessary for constructing a picture plane for displaying or setting apparatus information of the image processing apparatus to the external apparatus; a holding unit adapted to hold language information indicative of a language selected by a user from among a plurality of kinds of languages; and a data obtaining unit adapted to obtain the display data from the image processing apparatus if the display data necessary for constructing the picture plane depends on an apparatus type of the image processing apparatus and to obtain the display data from the network interface apparatus if the display data necessary for constructing the picture plane does not depend on the apparatus type of the image processing apparatus. The data obtaining unit designates the display data based on the language information held by the holding unit to obtain the display data corresponding to the language indicated by the language information held by the holding unit from the image processing apparatus and the providing unit provides the designated display data corresponding to the language indicated by the language information held by the holding unit to the external apparatus.

Therefore, using a network interface apparatus in accordance with Claim 1, a user can select a desired one language from among a plurality of kinds of languages. In response to the selection, the network interface apparatus obtains display data

corresponding to the selected language from the image processing apparatus. It should be noted that the user can view the picture plane for the image processing apparatus in each of the plurality of kinds of languages simply by selecting the language.

On the other hand, in Yanagidaira, either one of the language monitors 7 or 8 is selected according to the type of a printer. For example, the language monitor 7 is selected for printer A and the language monitor 8 is selected for printer B (Fig. 1). The language monitor 7 is not used for the printer B (column 5, lines 9-27). The "language" used with respect to the language monitors is different from the language used in the display window shown in Fig. 8, where the user views the information presented for the printer in the window in English. In Yanagidaira, it is impossible to present the information in a language other than English, even if the user wishes to view the information in a non-English language.

In light of the deficiencies of Yanagidaira as discussed above, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claim 15 is directed to an image processing apparatus substantially in accordance with the network interface apparatus of Claim 1. Amended independent Claim 21 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the network interface apparatus of Claim 1. Claim 29 is directed to a program executed by a computer substantially in accordance with the network interface apparatus of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 15, 21 and 29 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Claim 8 is directed to a network interface apparatus which is connected to an image processing apparatus and communicates with an external apparatus. The network

interface apparatus comprises a providing unit adapted to provide display data necessary for constructing a picture plane for displaying or setting apparatus information of the image processing apparatus to the external apparatus; an obtaining unit adapted to obtain shipping destination information showing to which place the image processing apparatus is shipped; and a data obtaining unit adapted to obtain the display data from the image processing apparatus if the display data necessary for constructing the picture plane depends on an apparatus type of the image processing apparatus and to obtain the display data from said network interface apparatus if the display data necessary for constructing the picture plane does not depend on the apparatus type of the image processing apparatus, wherein said data obtaining unit designates the display data based on the shipping destination information obtained by said obtaining unit to obtain the display data corresponding to the place shown by the shipping destination information obtained by said obtaining unit from the image processing apparatus and said providing unit provides the designated display data corresponding to the place shown by the shipping destination information obtained by said obtaining unit to the external apparatus.

As featured in Claim 8, display data corresponding to the shipping destination of the image processing apparatus is displayed in an external apparatus. Display data that depends on an apparatus type of the image processing apparatus and corresponds to the shipping destination place can be obtained from the image processing apparatus, in response to the network interface apparatus designating the display data based on the shipping destination information obtained from the image processing apparatus. In other words, the shipping destination information is stored in the image processing apparatus and obtained by the network interface apparatus, and the display data

corresponding to the shipping destination is stored in the image processing apparatus.

Therefore, in a network interface in accordance with Claim 8, the display data for the shipping destination can be obtained from the image processing apparatus.

However, the Office Action contends that Yanagidaira teaches obtaining shipping destination information showing to which place the image processing apparatus is shipped (column 7, lines 12 to 47). The URL request, relied on by the Examiner, shows which printer is desired, but not which place the image processing apparatus is shipped to (column 7, lines 12-20). Therefore, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's contention that the URL request of Yanagidaira is analogous to shipping destination information showing to which place the image processing apparatus is shipped of the present invention.

Furthermore, the URL request of Yanagidaira is inoperative to provide the features of the to shipping destination information showing to which place the image processing apparatus is shipped as featured in the present invention. As further featured in Claim 8, a data obtaining unit designates the display data based on the shipping destination information obtained by said obtaining unit to obtain the display data corresponding to the place shown by the shipping destination information. As the URL request of Yanagidaira does not include shipping destination information, the URL request of Yanagidaira cannot be used to display data corresponding to a place the image processing apparatus is shipped as featured in Claim 8.

In light of the deficiencies of Yanagidaira as discussed above, Applicant submits that independent Claim 8 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

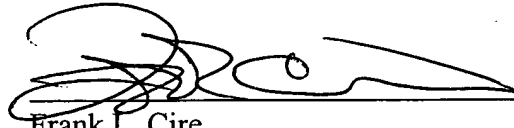
Independent Claim 18 is directed to an image processing apparatus substantially in accordance with the network interface apparatus of Claim 8. Independent Claim 25 is directed to a method substantially in accordance with the network interface apparatus of Claim 8. Claim 30 is directed to a program executed by a computer substantially in accordance with the network interface apparatus of Claim 8. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 18, 25 and 30 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', written over a horizontal line.

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